

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
San Antonio Fire Department
MEMORANDUM**

TO: SAFD and DSD Associates
FROM: Abel Flores, Fire Marshal
DATE: June 9, 2006
FILE: Code Interpretation Manual

INTERPRETATION NUMBER: CI2006-023

TITLE: Fire Alarm Visible Notification Appliance Intensities In Sleeping Areas

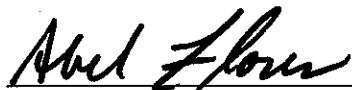
CODE EDITION: 2002 National Fire Protection Association Standard 72 – The National Fire Alarm Code (NFPA 72) as adopted by the 2003 International Fire Code, and 2003 International Fire Code (IFC) as adopted by the City of San Antonio.

SECTION: 2003 IFC Section 907.10.1.4 and 2002 NFPA 72 Section 7.5.4.4.2.

PURPOSE: To establish requirements for determining effective visible notification appliance intensities in sleeping areas, and to clarify the areas which are affected by these requirements.

QUESTION : In Group R-2 Occupancies (e.g., apartments, condominiums and other non-transient residential occupancies as defined by the 2003 International Building Code), where dwelling and/or sleeping units require visible notification fire alarm devices, are areas labeled as 'living rooms' to be provided with visible notification appliances as required for 'sleeping areas' per NFPA 72 Section 7.5.4.4.2, Table 7.5.4.2.2.

ANSWER: Yes. 'Living rooms' in Group R-2 Occupancies are commonly used as and/or easily converted to sleeping areas through the addition of furniture such as sofa sleepers, hide-a-beds, or rollaway beds. Therefore, 'living rooms' in Group R-2 Occupancies are required to meet the effective intensity requirements as stated in Table 7.5.4.2.2.



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